

PHARMACY BOARD[657]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 147.76 and 155A.6A, the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 3, “Pharmacy Technicians,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendment was approved at the November 24, 2010, teleconference meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

The proposed amendment identifies the technical functions that may be delegated by a supervising pharmacist to a pharmacy technician trainee or an uncertified pharmacy technician and clarifies that the functions that are identified in Chapter 5 that may be delegated to a pharmacy support person may also be delegated to a pharmacy technician.

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of Board rules will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Any interested person may present written comments, data, views, and arguments on the proposed amendment not later than 4:30 p.m. on January 24, 2011. Such written materials may be sent to Terry Witkowski, Executive Officer, Board of Pharmacy, 400 S.W. Eighth Street, Suite E, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4688; or by E-mail to terry.witkowski@iowa.gov.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code section 155A.6A as amended by 2010 Iowa Acts, House File 2531, section 112.

The following amendment is proposed.

Amend rule 657—3.22(155A) as follows:

657—3.22(155A) Technical functions. At the discretion of the supervising pharmacist, the following technical functions, in addition to any of the functions authorized for a pharmacy support person pursuant to 657—Chapter 5, may be delegated to a pharmacy technician as specified in the following subrules.

3.22(1) Certified pharmacy technician. Under the supervision of a pharmacist, a certified pharmacy technician may perform technical functions delegated by the supervising pharmacist including, but not limited to, the following:

- a.* Perform packaging, manipulative, or repetitive tasks relating to the processing of a prescription or medication order in a licensed pharmacy.
- b.* Accept prescription refill authorizations communicated to a pharmacy by a prescriber or by the prescriber’s office.
- c.* Contact prescribers to obtain prescription refill authorizations.
- d.* Process pertinent patient information, including information regarding allergies and disease state.
- e.* Enter prescription and patient information into the pharmacy computer system.
- f.* Inspect drug supplies provided and controlled by an Iowa-licensed pharmacy but located or maintained outside the pharmacy department, including but not limited to drug supplies maintained in an ambulance or other emergency medical service vehicle, a long-term care facility, a hospital patient care unit, or a hospice facility.
- g.* Affix required prescription labels upon any container of drugs sold or dispensed pursuant to the prescription of an authorized prescriber.

- h. Prepackage or label multidose and single-dose packages of drugs, including dose picks for unit dose cart or AMDS fills for hospital or long-term care facility patients.
- i. Perform drug compounding processes for nonsterile compounding as provided in 657—Chapter 20.
- j. Perform drug compounding processes for sterile compounding as provided in 657—Chapter 13.
- k. As provided in rule 657—3.24(155A), accept new prescription drug orders or medication orders communicated to the pharmacy by a prescriber or by the prescriber's agent.

3.22(2) *Pharmacy technician trainee and uncertified pharmacy technician.* Under the supervision of a pharmacist, a pharmacy technician trainee or an uncertified pharmacy technician may perform only the following technical functions delegated by the supervising pharmacist:

- a. Perform packaging, manipulative, or repetitive tasks relating to the processing of a prescription or medication order in a licensed pharmacy.
- b. Accept prescription refill authorizations communicated to a pharmacy by a prescriber or by the prescriber's office.
- c. Contact prescribers to obtain prescription refill authorizations.
- d. Process pertinent patient information, including information regarding allergies and disease state.
- e. Enter prescription and patient information into the pharmacy computer system.
- f. Affix required prescription labels upon any container of drugs sold or dispensed pursuant to the prescription of an authorized prescriber.
- g. Prepackage or label multidose and single-dose packages of drugs, including dose picks for unit dose cart or AMDS fills for hospital or long-term care facility patients.
- h. Under the supervision of a pharmacist who provides training and evaluates and monitors trainee competence in the compounding processes, perform drug compounding processes for nonsterile compounding as provided in 657—Chapter 20.
- i. Under the supervision of a pharmacist who provides training and evaluates and monitors trainees, and contingent on successful completion of appropriate media fill testing processes, perform drug compounding processes for sterile compounding as provided in 657—Chapter 13.

~~3.22(3) *Uncertified pharmacy technician.*~~ ~~Under the supervision of a pharmacist, an uncertified pharmacy technician may perform technical functions delegated by the supervising pharmacist limited to the following:~~

- ~~a.—Select the appropriate stock supply of a prescription drug from the pharmacy drug supply shelves to process a prescription drug order.~~
- ~~b.—Count dosage forms of prescription drugs into appropriate prescription vials or containers pursuant to prescription drug orders. Uncertified pharmacy technicians shall not prepackage or label multidose and single-dose packages of drugs, including dose picks for unit dose cart or AMDS fills for hospital or long-term care facility patients.~~
- ~~c.—Affix required prescription labels upon any container of drugs sold or dispensed pursuant to the prescription of an authorized prescriber.~~
- ~~d.—Return or place stock supplies of prescription drugs in the appropriate locations on the pharmacy drug supply shelves.~~